

**A Note on the Flight of *Acrolophus morus* (Grote)  
(Lepidoptera: Acrolophidae)**

ALEXANDER B. KLOTS

CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK AND AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

**Abstract:** It is possible that in Connecticut and New York *Acrolophus morus* (Grote) is consistently a diurnal flyer. This may be a matter of temperature adaptation of this, the northernmost species of an essentially southern and tropical group, and an autumn flyer.

Twice only I have taken *Acrolophus morus* (Grote) in the Northeast. On both occasions the individuals were netted while flying actively and normally (not flushed from shelter) during the day. On 11 October 1953, a male was taken about 2 P.M. near Canopus Lake, Putnam County, New York, flying swiftly in a grassy area at the edge of a marsh. On 29 September 1966, three specimens were seen at about 2:30 P.M. over my lawn in Putnam, Windham County, Connecticut. The soil beneath the lawn is a very dry sand-gravel. One specimen, probably a female, was relatively sluggish—perhaps it had just eclosed. The other two, both males, were flying very fast and erratically about and over it in curves. So fast and darting, in fact, was their flight that at first I thought that they were small, dark skippers far out of season. Unfortunately the female disappeared while the males were being netted. In the recent revision of *Acrolophus* by F. M. Hasbrouck (1964, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 114:632) a specimen of *morus* from Ithaca, New York is recorded as taken in the daytime. It is suggested that diurnal flight is a characteristic of this species, and that there may well be an adaptive correlation between this and the fact that it flies in the autumn and is the northernmost species of its family, at least in the East.

RECEIVED FOR PUBLICATION DECEMBER 15, 1966